





Southwest Region

General Fishing Season for the Southwest Region

All Waters Open All Year except as modified in Southwest Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17.
Fishing is not allowed within the posted upstream and downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.

General Bag and Possession Limits for the Southwest Region

The following bag and possession limits apply to all waters of the Southwest Region except as modified in Southwest Region Special Rule Waters on Pages 16-17.

Bass (largemouth and smallmouth)

- Bass limit is 6, both species combined
- None under 12 inches

Brook Trout

- Brook trout limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for brook trout

Bull Trout

- Bull trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- **No bull trout harvest is allowed**

Kokanee

- Kokanee limit is 6

Salmon (ocean-going)

- Salmon seasons and limits are set annually by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission and rules are issued in a separate brochure
- Fishing for or targeting salmon is prohibited unless a salmon season is specifically opened for that water

Steelhead (ocean-going)

- Defined as rainbow trout longer than twenty (20) inches in length in the Salmon River drainage (excluding lakes). Between Hells Canyon Dam and Oxbow Dam and the Boise River from its mouth upstream to Barber Dam during steelhead seasons, steelhead are rainbow trout over twenty (20) inches in length with the adipose fin clipped (as evidenced by a healed scar)
- Fishing for or targeting steelhead is prohibited unless a steelhead season is specifically opened for that water (see pages 36–40)

Sturgeon

- Sturgeon limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Sturgeon must not be removed from the water and must be released upon landing
- Barbless hooks and sliding sinkers are required, see Page 49 for details

Tiger Muskie

- Tiger Muskie limit is 2, none under 40 inches

Trout includes brown trout, lake trout, golden trout, Arctic grayling, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, trout hybrids, land-locked Chinook and coho salmon

- Trout limit is 6, all species combined

Does not include bull trout and brook trout which are listed separately

Whitefish

- Whitefish limit is 25
- Harvest allowed during any open season unless otherwise noted under Special Rules – if gear or bait restrictions are listed, they must be followed when fishing for whitefish

Protected Nongame Fish includes Pacific lamprey and sand rollers

- May not be harvested or possessed

All Other Fish Species includes bullfrogs and crayfish

- No bag, size or possession limit

Special Rule Waters for the Southwest Region (See Pages 16-17 for details)

Ben Ross Reservoir	Crystal Lake	M.K. Nature Center	Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries
Big Creek	Deadwood Reservoir	Owyhee River and tributaries	Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries
Boise River	Deadwood Reservoir tributaries	Oxbow Reservoir	Serene Lake
Boise River, Middle Fork	Duck Valley Indian Reservation	Payette Lake	Snake River
Boise River, South Fork	Granite Creek and tributaries	Payette River, North Fork	Squaw Creek and tributaries
Brundage Reservoir and tributaries	Indian Creek Reservoir	Payette River, South Fork and tributaries	Stibnite Pond (Glory Hole)
Brush Lake	Lake Lowell	Rapid River and tributaries	Tule Lake
Cascade Aquarium Pond	Lake Rock Lake	Roosevelt Lake	Warren Creek
Chamberlain Creek and tributaries	Little Payette Lake	Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries	Wilson Springs Trophy Pond
Crane Falls Lake	Long Lake	Salmon River	
	Louie Lake	Salmon River tributaries	
	Middle Fork Salmon River		

Special Rule Waters For the Southwest Region

See Page 15 for fishing seasons, bag and possession limits, and rules that apply to all waters within the Southwest Region except as listed below.

Ben Ross Reservoir

- January 1 through June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 through December 31 - bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Big Creek

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Boise River (lower) from the mouth upstream to Lucky Peak Dam

Section: From the East Boise River footbridge (near Park Center Pond) upstream about two miles to where Loggers Creek is diverted from the Boise River

- Trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches

All other sections of the lower Boise River - Southwest Region general rules apply

Boise River, Middle Fork

Section: From the confluence of the North Fork upstream to Atlanta Dam

- Rainbow trout limit is 2, none under 14 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

All other sections of the Boise River, Middle Fork - Southwest Region general rules apply

Boise River, South Fork

Section: From Neal Bridge (Forest Road 189) upstream to Anderson Ranch Dam

- No bait allowed, one barbless hook per fly or lure
- December 1 through March 31 – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- April 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – closed to fishing
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 – trout limit 2, none under 20 inches

Section: Boise River, South Fork above Anderson Ranch Dam; see Magic Valley Region rules (Page 20)

Brundage Reservoir and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2, none over 14 inches
- No bait allowed

Brush Lake (an alpine lake in North Fork Payette drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Cascade Aquarium Pond

- Closed to fishing

Chamberlain Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

Crane Falls Lake

- Electric motors only
- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches

Crystal Lake (an alpine lake in the Lake Fork drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Deadwood Reservoir

- Kokanee limit is 25 per day, 50 in possession

Deadwood Reservoir tributaries

- Trout limit is 2
- Kokanee limit is 25 per day, 50 in possession

Duck Valley Indian Reservation - contact the Duck Valley Indian Tribal Office

Granite Creek and tributaries (tributary to Snake River)

- Trout limit is 2

Indian Creek Reservoir

- January 1 to June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 to December 31 - bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Lake Lowell

- January 1 to June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 to December 31 - bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Lake Rock Lake (an alpine lake in the Secesh River drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Little Payette Lake

- Bass limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- Kokanee limit is 25 per day, 50 in possession

Long Lake (an alpine lake south of Warm Lake)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Louie Lake (an alpine lake in the Boulder Creek drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Middle Fork Salmon River (see Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries)

M.K. Nature Center

- Closed to fishing

Owyhee River and tributaries

- Bass limit is 6, any size may be kept

Oxbow Reservoir (between Brownlee Dam and Oxbow Dam)

- January 1 through June 30 - bass limit is 0, catch-and-release
- July 1 through December 31 - bass limit is 2, none between 12 and 16 inches

Payette Lake

- Lake trout limit is 1, none over 30 inches

Payette River, Middle Fork and tributaries

- Southwest Region general rules apply

Payette River, North Fork

Section: From Payette Lake upstream, including tributaries

- Kokanee limit is 0, catch-and-release

All other sections of the Payette River, North Fork - Southwest Region general rules apply

Payette River, South Fork and tributaries (except the Middle Fork Payette drainage)

- Trout limit is 2

Rapid River and tributaries (tributary to the Little Salmon River)

- Trout limit is 2

Roosevelt Lake

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Sage Hen Reservoir tributaries

- December 1 through June 15 - closed to fishing
- June 16 through November 30 - trout limit is 2

Salmon River

- Trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept

Salmon River tributaries

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Salmon River upstream to the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River (except Crooked Creek, Little Salmon River, and South Fork Salmon River)

- Trout limit is 2

Section: Those tributaries from the mouth of the Middle Fork Salmon River upstream (except: North Fork Salmon River, Lemhi, Pahsimeroi, East Fork Salmon River, and Yankee Fork Salmon River)

- December 1 through Friday before Memorial Day weekend – trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through November 30 - Salmon Region general rules apply

Salmon River, Middle Fork and tributaries (includes: Bear Valley, Big, Camas, Elk, Loon, Marsh, Sulphur creeks, and tributaries)

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Salmon River, South Fork and tributaries (includes: Johnson Creek, East Fork South Fork Salmon River, Secesh River, Lake Creek, Summit Creek and tributaries)

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Serene Lake (an alpine lake in the Hazard Creek drainage)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Snake River

Section: Lewiston upstream to Hells Canyon Dam

- Bass limit is 6, any size may be kept
- Open to the harvest of trout all year, trout limit is 6; only trout with a clipped adipose fin, as evidenced by a healed scar, may be kept

Section: Brownlee Dam upstream in the Southwest Region - Southwest Region general rules apply

Squaw Creek and tributaries

- Trout limit is 2

Stibnite Pond (Glory Hole)

- Trout limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Tule Lake (an alpine lake near Warm Lake)

- Trout limit is 2, none under 20 inches
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required

Warren Creek

- Trout limit is 2

Wilson Springs Trophy Pond

- All species limit is 0, catch-and-release
- No bait allowed, barbless hooks required